

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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CIEP-01 FAA-00 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /077 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9697

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - 1976/77 WINTER SCHEDULES

REF: STATE 189645

1. SUMMARY. GOI CIVIL AIR AUTHORITIES HAVE MADE FOUR OBJECTIONS TO PRELIMINARY WINTER SCHEDULES AND HAVE DEMANDED THAT THE WINTER SCHEDULES BE REVISED ACCORDINGLY. THEY OBJECT TO (A) TWA INCREASE OF TWO FREQUENCIES OVER THE 1975/76 WINTER SEASON, (B) PAA PLAN TO INITIATE ALL-CARGO SERVICE FROM TEHRAN AND ISTANBUL ON SEPTEMBER 12 (I.E. WITHOUT PROVIDING 90 DAY NOTICE), (C) PAA PLAN TO FLY ALL-CARGO FLIGHTS THROUGH ITALY (RATHER THAN TERMINATE THEM IN ITALY) FROM TEHERAN AND ISTANBUL AND (D) SEA-BOARD'S CHANGE OF GAUGE AT FRANKFURT. GUIDANCE IS REQUESTED. END SUMMARY.

2. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA), BY NOTE VERBALE, HAS TRANSMITTED TO EMBASSY TEXT OF MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION (MOT) REPLY TO EMBASSY'S AIDE MEMOIRE OF AUGUST 2 WHICH TRANSMITTED THE US AIRLINES PRELIMINARY WINTER SEASON SCHEDULES. INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF MOT'S REPLY
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FOLLOWS.

BEGIN TEXT:

FROM A PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF THE SCHEDULES FOR THE 1976/77 WINTER SEASON WITH REFERENCE TO THE COMBINED AND ALL-CARGO SERVICES OF THE TWA AND PAA COMPANIES AS WELL AS THE ALL-CARGO SERVICES OF THE SEABOARD COMPANY THE FOLLOWING EMERGED:

-- THE TWA COMPANY HAS PROGRAMMED A CAPACITY INCREASE OF THE TWO WEEKLY COMBINED SERVICES TO MILAN IN RELATION TO THE 1975/76 WINTER SEASON.

-- THE PAA COMPANY HAS PROGRAMMED, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 12, 1976, TWO WEEKLY ALL-CARGO FLIGHTS, ORIGINATING IN TEHERAN AND ISTANBUL, RESPECTIVELY, WITH B707 AIRCRAFT IN AN EAST-WEST DIRECTION AS FOLLOWS: TEHERAN-ROME-FRANKFURT-NEW YORK AND ISTANBUL-ROME-FRANKFURT-LONDON-NEW YORK.

-- THE SEABOARD COMPANY HAS AGAIN PROPOSED THE CHANGE OF AIRCRAFT AT FRANKFURT FROM B747-F TO DC8/63F ON ITS SERVICE TO MILAN.

WITH REFERENCE TO THE PROGRAM PRESENTED BY THE TWA COMPANY, WE CALL TO YOUR ATTENTION THAT THE CAPACITY INCREASE OF ITS COMBINED SERVICES IS NOT JUSTIFIED BY FORESEEN TRAFFIC REQUIREMENTS AND, THEREFORE, THE AFORESAID COMPANY IS ASKED TO SEND ITS DEFINITIVE SCHEDULE, KEEPING IN MIND THE FOREGOING.

AS FAR AS THE ALL-CARGO SERVICES PROGRAM OF THE PAA COMPANY IS CONCERNED WE NOTE THAT:

-- THE PROPOSED INITIATION (OF SERVICES) CONFLICTS WITH PROVISIONS UNDER EXISTING ITALIAN-US UNDERSTANDINGS WHICH PROVIDE THAT THE PRESENTATION OF THE SCHEDULES SHOULD BE EFFECTED 90 DAYS BEFORE THEY ENTER INTO EFFECT;

-- THE ALL CARGO SERVICES PLAN ON USE OF ISTANBUL AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TEHERAN AIRPORTS IN CONTRAST WITH WHAT IS ESTABLISHED IN NOTE 3 OF THE TABLE OF US SCHEDULES, ACCORDING TO WHICH 'THE ALL-CARGO SERVICES SHOULD TERMINATE IN ITALY.'

WITH REFERENCE TO THE ALL-CARGO SERVICES SCHEDULE PRESENTED BY THE SEABOARD COMPANY, WE CALL TO YOUR ATTENTION, AS IN PREVIOUS REPRESENTATIONS, THAT THE CHANGE OF AIRCRAFT AT FRANKFURT FROM B747-F TO DC8/63F IS NOT PERMITTED BY THE

EXISTING ITALIAN-US UNDERSTANDINGS ON ALL-CARGO SERVICES.

THE ABOVE OBSERVATIONS DERIVE FROM A FIRST EXAMINATION OF THE SCHEDULES PRESENTED AND, THEREFORE, FULLEST RESERVATIONS ARE MADE ON THE APPRAISAL OF EVERY OTHER ELEMENT INVOLVED IN THE SUPPLY OF CAPACITY.

FINALLY, IT IS EMPHASIZED THAT THE INTERESTED US AIRLINE COMPANIES MUST PRESENT NEW SCHEDULES THAT DO NOT PROVIDE FOR THE CHANGE OF AIRCRAFT AT FRANKFURT BY SEABOARD NOR THE INITIATION ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1976 OF THE PAA ALL-CARGO SERVICES SCHEDULE, NOR USE OF ISTANBUL AND TEHERAN AIRPORTS FOR THE AFORESAID SERVICES OF PAA, NOR, FINALLY, THE CAPACITY INCREASE PROGRAMMED FOR THE COMBINED TWA SERVICES.

END TEXT.

3. COMMENT. (A) EMBASSY'S COMPARISON OF TWA PRELIMINARY WINTER SCHEDULE WITH PREVIOUS WINTER SCHEDULE INDICATES INCREASE OF FOUR FREQUENCIES TO MILAN, TWO ON EXISTING FLIGHTS 842 AND 843 AND TWO ON NEW FLIGHTS 830 AND 831. NET CHANGE IN FREQUENCIES THROUGH ROME, HOWEVER, IS TWO LESS THAN IN PREVIOUS WINTER SEASON. (B) EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS PAA VIEW IS THAT ALL-CARGO SERVICES FROM ISTANBUL AND TEHERAN TO ROME AMOUNT TO QTE NO MORE THAN REPOSITIONING OF AIRCRAFT UNQTE AS THEY CARRY VIRTUALLY NO CARGO OUT OF EITHER STARTING POINT. (C) PAA APPARENTLY FEELS FREE TO ESTABLISH ITS ALL-CARGO SERVICE AS FILED IN PRELIMINARY SCHEDULES BEGINNING ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1976 (WITHOUT GIVING 90 DAY NOTICE) BECAUSE IT HAD "ARBITRARILY" REDUCED ITS CARGO FLIGHTS FROM THREE TO ONE AS DEMAND FOR CARGO CAPACITY TRAILED OFF (TIMING OF APPROVAL OR THREE FLIGHTS AND RELIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DUCTION TO ONE NOT CLEAR TO EMBASSY AT THIS TIME). NOW THAT DEMAND IS RECOVERING, PAA WISHES TO RESTORE SOME OF ITS FORMER CAPACITY JUST AS INFORMALLY. (D) OBJECTION TO SEABOARD'S CHANGE OF GAUGE HARDLY SURPRISING. IT SEEMS DOUBTFUL THAT ITALIANS WILL PERMIT CONTINUATION OF THIS OPERATION EVEN ON "EMERGENCY" BASIS IN ABSENCE QUID PRO QUO.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE ASAP ON RESPONSE TO MFA NOTE AND PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR FILING OF FINAL WINTER SCHEDULES DUE ON SEPTEMBER 2.BEAUDRY

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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